

ineffective. The delayed adoption of these viable alternatives means that every year several million animals are needlessly held in captivity and oftentimes senselessly harmed by experiments in the process.

To rectify this situation, I am introducing the Humane Research and Testing Act of 2021 alongside my esteemed colleague and good friend Congressman VERN BUCHANAN. This legislation establishes the National Center for Alternatives to Animals in Research and Testing within the NIH. First, the National Center will provide assistance, funding, and training to educate scientists in alternatives to the use of animals in research. The National Center will also facilitate collaborations that provide scientists lacking resources with access to human-relevant methods. Second, the National Center will be tasked with tallying the number of animals used in federally funded research. Scientists receiving federal funding and government agencies that use animals in research will be required to submit regular reports to the National Center that state the number of animals used in their research projects, disaggregated by species, and they will also be required to outline a plan for reducing the number of animals they use.

Madam Speaker, I urge the House to swiftly pass this legislation. The establishment of a new center dedicated to encouraging human-relevant alternatives to animal testing is needed, so that the NIH can meet its goal of reducing the number of animals unnecessarily harmed in research every year.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF KIERSTEN ENGLEBERT

#### HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2021*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kiersten Englebert of Biglerville for her dedication to helping homeless veterans.

Kiersten, who holds the title of International United Miss Pennsylvania PreTeen, worked alongside fellow friends to provide vital items for her neighbors in need. She collected hygiene products, socks, hats, gloves and other items, filling 70 backpacks to support the work of local nonprofit For the Love of a Veteran.

Kiersten is an outstanding young woman who already has demonstrated great dedication to the people of Adams County. It is my pleasure to recognize Kiersten for this selfless work to serve our veterans in need, and I wish her continued success in this mission.

#### HONORING THE LEADERSHIP AND LEGACY OF MARIA CUNHA

#### HON. LORI TRAHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2021*

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the leadership and legacy of a mentor and a friend, Maria Cunha, who will retire as Associate Dean and Director of the Out of School Youth Development Program at Middlesex Community College. Her most recent

years at MCC have had an immense impact on students and faculty alike, advising and supporting them in their educational and vocational pursuits.

Maria was born in the Azores and moved with her family to the United States in 1967, eventually settling in Lowell among a vibrant, proud Portuguese community. After graduating from Lowell High School in 1974, she went to Regis College and became the first in her family to graduate from college four years later.

Public service has always guided Maria's career. She worked as a teacher, interpreter, and mentor serving on countless non-profit boards and dedicated her life to advocating fiercely for families, children, and immigrants in our community.

For twelve years at the International Institute, Maria helped families navigate government agencies on their path to becoming citizens and creating a new life in the Greater Lowell region. She carried that passion for advocacy to her next role as Constituent Services Director in former Representative Marty Meehan's District Office. There, she continued her mission to provide the highest quality services to our community and exemplified the nobility of service—picking up the phone and listening to someone in crisis and delivering assistance; not giving up on someone in need of a hand; and advocating for resources and laws that fix our broken, inequitable systems.

Over the years, Maria has served as a role model and mentor to so many, myself included. She is what we all should aspire to be as public servants—a shining and tangible example of how government, education, and community are supposed to work.

Even in retirement, Maria will continue to champion those who don't have a voice, her rich Portuguese heritage, and immigrants in search of a better life here in our community.

Through her many years of service, Maria has made the City of Lowell a better place to call home. Thanks to her efforts, the City's future is bright, and I join Lowell residents and so many throughout our region in thanking her for her dedication to this incredible community.

#### HONORING ROBIN MACH

#### HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2021*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, most of us had that special teacher growing up who went the extra mile and left a lasting impression on us. All these years later a few still come to mind right away. Recently a Missouri teacher, Robin Mach who teaches preschool in the Meramec Valley R-III School District, gave a whole new meaning to "going the extra mile" and became a real-life hero when she donated a kidney to one of her students.

Kayleigh Kulage was born premature at 26 weeks weighing only 15 ounces. From her very first day on earth Kayleigh had to fight for her survival and persevere in the face of the longest of odds, including living the first five years of her life with failing kidneys. In the summer of 2019, a Doris Hoffman Early Learning Center teacher met Kayleigh Kulage at a dentist office in Pacific, Missouri and encouraged the Kulage family to apply for edu-

cational services. In the fall of 2019, Ms. Robin, as Kayleigh calls her, began providing in-home educational services to Kayleigh. One year later, Kayleigh met the criteria to be placed on the transplant list. Ms. Robin talked to the Kulages about the donation process and ultimately decided to get tested to see if she would be a match for Kayleigh. As fate would have it, the two were a match, and on February 3, 2021, Robin and Kayleigh had successful surgeries to complete the transplant.

Robin Mach began working with pre-kindergarten students in 1999 and has long been known for going above the norm for her students. Dr. Stephanie Bechard stated, "Ms. Robin has always had a very strong sense of community and supporting our students outside of school. She always thinks of others in need and sees how all things affect our students and families. Her heart for our students, families, and community is monumental."

Monumental is an excellent way to describe the selflessness Robin Mach has displayed. She risked her life for her student and in doing so changed lives of that little girl and her family forever. She is a true hero among us, and we are lucky to have her educating our students and our community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2021*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I was prevented from voting on the motion to recommit on March 9, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on the motion to recommit H.R. 842.

#### GEORGE FLOYD JUSTICE IN POLICING ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

#### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 3, 2021*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1280—George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021. This legislation has been a long time coming and for many it has arrive too little too late. Our nation is a work in progress, and we will continue to fight for equality under the law in every and all aspects.

This essential legislation has critical provision including supporting the need for more deescalation training for police officers, something that I have long fought for and which has proven time and time again to work. The bill will also block the transfer of weapons of war to police departments, end the no-knock warrants that led to the murder of Breonna Taylor, ban choke holds that killed Eric Garner and George Floyd, and finally end qualified immunity which has shielded police officers from receiving justice for killing or injuring members of the community.

As a member of the Congressional Black Caucus but more importantly as a black mother, grandmother, and now great-grandmother,

I am so proud to be an original sponsor of the legislation.

Our communities are demanding action, calling for strong and effective action that will help not only prevent future tragedies between police and the communities they patrol, but also help increase trust and build safer communities.

This is a commonsense bill that deserves bipartisan support. This is the first step to making our union more perfect, and I urge all my colleagues to support it.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THRIVENT COMMUNITY-ADVENT PARTNERS

**HON. JOHN JOYCE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2021*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Thrivent Community-Advent Partners team for their service to the Adams County community.

As an act of kindness for their neighbors, this group assembles and delivers care packages to patients who are undergoing cancer treatments in the Gettysburg Cancer Center and the Wellspan Adams Cancer Center. This tradition was established five years ago and has continued to be a service project shared by many community members. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Thrivent Community-Advent Partners team has taken extra care to safely assemble packages that include items such as masks, blankets, lotion, hand sanitizer, tissues, lip balm and other items. Despite challenges, they have persevered to continue this mission.

Thrivent Community-Advent Partners' commitment to community service is invaluable to the Adams County community. It is an honor to thank these Pennsylvanians for their commitment and highlight this invaluable work, and I wish them every continued success.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF WARREN PIERNER'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2021*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II veteran Warren Pierner as he celebrates his 100th birthday on March 13, 2021.

Warren grew up in Green Bay and attended Green Bay East High School. In 1942, he joined the United States Coast Guard, where he served in the Atlantic on a patrol frigate called the *Grand Rapids*, and in the Pacific on an attack transport called the *Aquarius*. Mr. Pierner ran the boilers on these ships for nearly four years and attained the rank of Water Tender 1st Class. Warren continued his service to his country and community as a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service, where he worked for 36 years before his retirement in 1984.

After his military service, Warren began to build a family. He married Myra Larsen in 1948 and together they had 7 children during their 60 years of marriage until her passing in

2008. His family enjoyed the summers together fishing, swimming, and playing cards while camping or staying in a rented cabin in Northern Wisconsin. An avid sportsman and sports fan, Warren love to golf, bowl, fish, and swim. Mr. Pierner has been a longtime Chicago Cubs fan but makes up for it by being an ardent Green Bay Packers fan, UW Green Bay Phoenix fan, and Wisconsin Badger fan.

Beloved husband, father, and soldier, Warren is a tribute to the "Greatest Generation" and a grateful nation and state thank him for his service.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in applauding Warren Pierner for his service in WWII and wishing him a happy and healthy 100th birthday.

#### SUPPORT OUR MILITARY WORKING DOGS ACT

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2021*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I reintroduce the "Support Our Military Working Dogs Act" in commemoration of National K9 Veterans Day later this week. The United States K9 Corps was established on March 13, 1942.

Military working dogs serve with our troops on the front lines and provide recuperating services for our veterans and their former handlers. Caring for these dogs in the field and once they return home is our responsibility. The "Support Our Military Working Dogs Act" would ensure that our nation's military working dogs receive the best possible care and direct the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) to work with veterans' service organizations and other nonprofits to support their long-term veterinary care, once adopted by their former handler's into loving homes.

Specifically, the "Support Our Military Working Dogs Act" would authorize DOD to provide charitable support for retired or injured military working dogs after their adoption, by coordinating third-party donations to cover the cost of long-term veterinary care. The bill would also ensure that the U.S. government covers all transportation costs associated with transferring retired military animals, including horses, to their new adopted homes, building upon the success of the Military Working Dog Retirement Act of 2015.

Lastly, the bill for this Congress includes a new provision clarifying that DOD's Joint Trauma Education and Training Directorate may also conduct research on the treatment and avoidance of injuries for military working dogs. Former Congressman Ralph Abraham (R-LA) sponsored this provision as an amendment to the House-passed "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021," but it was ultimately removed during conference negotiations with the Senate. I am pleased to include this much-needed clarification in my bill.

As chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness, which has jurisdiction over military working dogs, I urge all members of the House to join me in cosponsoring this important legislation. Congress must support our K9 veterans during and after their service.

#### HONORING SUE WILSON AND THE HELPING HAND AS IOWANS OF THE WEEK

**HON. CYNTHIA AXNE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2021*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sue Wilson and The Helping Hand of Warren County in Indianola, Iowa for their aid to the underserved people of their community. Sue and The Helping Hand are the pinnacles of what it means to be an Iowan, and I wish to recognize them as my Iowan of the Week for their remarkable dedication to the betterment of their state.

The Helping Hand is a volunteer organization whose mission is to distribute food, clothing, and household items to residents in their community for no cost. While they have been serving the people of Warren County for years via their walk-in food pantry, they have begun outreach to expand their services to address underlying issues resulting in food insecurity such as substance misuse and mental health services.

The Helping Hand is expanding its network to multiple resources and services that its community members can utilize. Not only is it a support system for people who need food and clothing, it is also a resource for those who look to better their mental health as well, not just their physical.

Sue serves on Governor Reynolds' Advisory Council for Brain Injuries and has started to administer a voluntary brain injury screening tool to the community members that utilize The Helping Hand. While people are waiting in the food pantry line, they are invited to participate in the screening and are then asked a series of questions. This new programming is in the early stages, but Sue and The Helping Hand are hoping that they will soon be able to provide data of the percentage of people who have suffered from a brain injury and have limited resources to assist them in their betterment. So far, The Helping Hand has screened approximately 100 people in their food pantry line.

Sue and The Helping Hand's desire to better the lives of those in Warren County is inspiring. Whether it be facing food insecurity directly or distributing over one thousand boxes of food and supplies, they are setting the standards high on what it means to serve and be served within a community. Sue and The Helping Hand are constantly and consistently striving to better themselves and the people they serve, and they do this through complete devotion, an unwavering work ethic, and huge hearts. I am proud to recognize Sue Wilson and The Helping Hand of Warren County as my Iowan of the week.

#### CELEBRATING THE 110TH BIRTHDAY OF EL DORADO NATIVE, MRS. WILLIE BELL COGGINS

**HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2021*

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 110th birthday of El Dorado, Arkansas, native, Mrs. Willie Bell